agri-fax Field Crops Alberta AGRICULTURE

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Varietal Description of Othello Field Bean

Origin and breeding

Othello, a pinto-type field bean tested as GH-215 and GH-217, was developed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Prosser, Washington, and released as an F_{11} generation in 1986. This variety was derived from the cross NW-410/2/Victor Pink/Aurora. Plant material was maintained and advanced through pedigreed selection. During this time, the selection criteria were yield maturity and resistance to root rot.

Varietal characteristics

Growth habit: indeterminate; semi-vining with vigorous, short, fairly upright growth

Leaves: small to medium; wrinkled; dull medium green

Stem: thin and wiry

Flowers: white

Pods: scattered with a heavier concentration around the mid-section of the plant; fresh pods are light to medium green; elliptical in cross section; reddish streaks develop as pods mature; mature pods are tan

Seeds: dark brown mottling on a light brown background; hilum view is elliptical; side view is oval; oval to elliptical cross section; one end rounded the other truncated; hilum is white with no distinct ring; seeds are slightly larger than those of UI 111

Maturity: 104 days; 8 days earlier than UI 111 in Alberta

Disease reactions: U.S. data indicate that Othello is resistant to the common type and NY 15 strains of bean common mosaic virus; resistant to Fusarium root rot *(Fusarium oxysporum)*; resistant to curly top virus (CTV); susceptible to white mold *(Sclerotinia sclerotiorum)* and to rust *(Uromyces phaseoli)*.

Performance

Othello is an early maturing pinto bean variety with yields 15 per cent higher than UI 111 in southern Alberta. Cooking quality is comparable to that of UI 111.

Maintenance of breeder seed

Washington State Crop Improvement Association Inc., Pullman, Washington

Canadian representative

Alberta Wheat Pool

Canadian distributor

Public

Recommended by

Prairie Registration Recommending Committee for Grain

Table 1. Agronomic performance of Othello and check varieties, Alberta Field Bean Trials, 1984-1987*

Variety	Type	Seed Weight (g/1000 seeds)	Maturity (D.A.P.)	Yield (kg/ha)	Average Harvest Index (%)
Othello	Pinto	385.7	102.0	3064.2	59.8
UI 111	Pinto	357.1	111.0	2844.9	50.5
Topaz	Pinto	364.9	99.2	2692.5	57.8
Viva	Pink	269.8	106.7	3064.5	52.0
OAC Seaforth	Navy	209.8	108.2	2321.8	46.0
Fiesta Pinto	Pinto	405.1	103.5	2803.8	49.5

*Testing performed at Brooks and Bow Island, Alberta

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